



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

*History of plague case No. 121, at Concord, Cal.*SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., *March 10, 1904.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

Washington, D. C.

(Through medical officer in command.)

SIR: I have the honor to state that in accordance with your directions I visited Concord, Cal., on February 29 for the purpose of conferring with Doctor Neff relative to a case of suspected bubonic plague. The patient (an Irish-American woman) died about fifteen minutes after my arrival. She was taken ill on February 24 in the morning, her first symptoms being a marked vertigo with slight nausea. In the afternoon of the same day she noticed a painful swelling in the left axilla. On the morning of the 25th she had a well-marked rigor, with subsequent temperature registering 105° F., and it was at this time that Doctor Neff was called to see the case. The temperature subsequently ran an irregular course. There were headache, nausea, and vomiting, great depression, and on the 28th the patient (a woman 39 years old) was delivered of a viable fœtus, of about the sixth or seventh month. At the time of my visit I found her moribund, pulse almost imperceptible, respirations irregular, breath of a character suggestive of pulmonary œdema, scleræ very much injected, face cyanotic, with other symptoms of rapidly approaching dissolution. There was no history of pneumonia. About 11 o'clock p. m. I returned with the undertaker, who had been employed to embalm the body, and obtained permission to examine the body sufficiently to make a diagnosis, promising, however, not to mutilate in the sense of performing a necropsy. I had no difficulty in removing a considerable mass of enlarged lymph nodes from the left axilla, which, grossly, were very characteristic, and could hardly be mistaken for any condition other than that suspected by the attending physician. Smears from these nodes made in Doctor Neff's office gave typical pest-like bacilli, and cultures made from these nodes give an organism which, in so far as I have pursued the investigation, behaves in a manner identical with that of *B. pestis*, and I have no doubt confirmation will be completed within a few days. I informed the undertaker of the provisional diagnosis, and he very readily acquiesced in my suggestion that he should take extraordinary precautions in his handling of the body, including the wearing of rubber gloves and the burning of such fabrics as might be soiled by contact. I also cautioned the members of the family, giving such instructions as I thought were necessary for their protection, as also did Doctor Neff. I returned immediately to San Francisco, informing Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue of the conditions, in order that proper steps might be taken for the disposal of the case.

Respectfully,

B. J. LLOYD, *Assistant Surgeon.**Disinfection of vessels at San Francisco on account of tuberculosis.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon Stimpson reports, March 5, as follows:

Quarters previously occupied by patients suffering from tuberculosis on the following vessels were disinfected during the month of February, 1904, in accordance with Department Circular No. 15, dated February 11, 1902: Steamers *St. Helena*, disinfected February 3,